

HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

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Entered at the Postoffice of Honolulu, H. T., Second-Class matter.

Semi-Weekly—Issued Tuesdays and Fridays.

Subscription Rates:

Per Month.....\$ 25 Per Month, Foreign.....\$ 35

Per Year.....\$2.00 Per Year, Foreign.....\$4.00

Payable Invariably in Advance.

CHARLES S. CRANE, Manager.

FRIDAY

JUNE 27

THE BANANA CLAIM GRAFT.

In a report of the business of the "Banana Claims" Commission published, it is stated that the claims now aggregate some \$76,000 and that it is taken for granted that about that much more will be claimed before the grand total is reached. The same published report states that the committee will probably be able to pay about twelve cents on the dollar.

This is a decidedly rotten showing. Anyone with any intelligence knows that there never has been at any time fifty thousand dollars' worth of banana trees in this city, including all the banana plantations, untouched during the clean-up. It goes without saying that, at the very least calculation, four-fifths of all the claims made before the commission to date are fraudulent and that a concerted movement is on foot to rob the government.

The commission has been named to prevent this robbery, but if the calculation of paying twelve cents on the dollar is by the commission, or by any one of the commissioners, it would appear that that body is going on the proposition that its sole duty consists in simply waiving up the forty thousand dollars voted among all who are willing to perjure themselves for a slice of it, with the most brazen perjuries getting the biggest shares.

The average good citizen, with any sense of pride or conception of patriotism, would be ashamed to bill the government for the trifling loss of a few banana trees, cut down as an incident of the expensive work of putting the city in sanitary condition to meet a threatened epidemic of yellow fever, a work in which private money and volunteer help played a great part. A review of the list of claims now before the banana commission would be laughable, were it not such a display of graft, greed and gall, humiliating in its magnitude and sickening in the fact it presents of the lack of pride, civic decency and sense of cooperation that exists in the community.

We trust the commissioners will consider their duty to the Territory and the politics out of this banana question from now on. There has been a nauseating amount of that so far; enough, in all conscience, even for Honolulu.

JAPANESE PRESS ON THE BROAD ISSUE.

The Japanese papers at hand contain surprisingly little direct reference to the California Anti-Asian Land Law, but much on the broader issue that has arisen, namely: the question of the equality of the races. Such phrases as "white snobbery," "albinism," "white peril" and "white presumption" appear with a frequency in the editorial columns as indicate a widely-spreading sentiment. "White men's snobbery" is what the Osaka Mainichi calls the exclusion laws of America, in an article entitled "Might and Right," based on the ultimatum of Foreign Secretary Grey to the Balkan representatives, to sign the peace treaty or get out of London. "The leader of the Far East" (Japan), is being led like a sheep by the European Powers in China," says the Mainichi, "and played fast and loose with by an unscrupulous statesman like Yuan. In America her sons and daughters, who have now finished their work of bringing large areas of land under cultivation, are told to 'Get out.' They are called an objectionable race whose presence poisons the moral atmosphere of the white man's America. 'Don't talk about the treaty or the principles of justice and humanity,' they are told. 'If we don't want you here, you have only to get out.' Meanwhile the statesmen at Washington are using honeyed words to coax their colleagues at Tokio. And the government and people of Japan are apparently powerless to show their resentment in a plain manner than they are now doing. Is Japan such a small nation that she must stand all this 'white man's snobbery'?"

The Kokumin, in a leader on "White Snobbery," concludes by saying that "Self reliance is the only thing that counts. If we have not enough strength of our own to resist humiliation, we have just to stand it," while the Mainichi, commenting on a recent pan-Asiatic meeting, said:

"At a time when the white man's domination is at its height, and the white peril is growing more and more imminent, it is our fervent hope that the Asiatics will not content themselves merely in giving vent to their resentment, but will cooperate with one another to start a more united movement on a big scale."

The Tokio Hochi says the whole racial question admits of a simple solution. "The question of race," says the Hochi, "can be found almost everywhere in England's colonies, in Canada, Australia, Africa and India. In these British colonies the whites always regard the colored inhabitants as inferiors and look down upon them, and various laws in these countries have been drawn up upon the basis of the above supposition. To establish the principle that the colored peoples are not necessarily always inferior to the white, therefore, must mean to destroy the foundation of the present colonial system of England, and would certainly be a grave affair for the British people. It will be an equally grave one for Germany, which once urged the white countries to form an alliance against the Yellow Peril. It may be indeed a grave question viewed from this standpoint, that of the usurpers, but it is mere commonplace problem from the standpoint of humanity and in the eyes of God."

"When the theory of social democracy was widely advocated it may have been regarded by a small number of usurpers of power as a grave matter, but it is nowadays accepted even by these men as one of minor importance. Again at the time when the European Powers tried to force the Orientals to open their territories to intercourse the latter regarded the matter as so grave as to mean the downfall of their countries. But the matter is now a commonplace even in the eyes of these Orientals. Similarly the present claim of the Japanese for equal treatment by the whites may appear a 'grave problem' to Europeans and Americans, because of their conceit that they must always be superiors in the world, but it is a mere commonplace one to us."

"Who says that the colored peoples are inferior to the whites? Three or four thousand years ago, the Orient was surely superior to the Occident. We can find many instances in history to prove it. It is true that in the recent centuries the West has been superior to the East, but who can be sure that the position between the two may not again change? The superiority or inferiority of one people is not a question of natural traits but is decided by the rise or decay of the national spirit of a people. In other words it must be decided by the existing circumstances of that people. Now at present some of the white nations are in a decadent condition, while among the Oriental nations some are rising. It is unjust, therefore, to discriminate in the treatment of these nations according to difference of color. Should the white seek to give better treatment to those declining white people of the West than to the rising peoples in the East, that would be outrageous conduct which the rising peoples could not tolerate."

"We realize the difficult position of England in this California question and this delicate hearing of the question upon England is the reason why Sir Valentine Chirol and other English observers refrain from giving any final judgment on it. We sympathize with them, but we cannot all the same tolerate the cold treatment accorded by the whites to the Japanese, either as a nation or individually, since they can point to many facts testifying to their superiority in many respects to some of the white nations. So long as this is not recognized, the question of the Japanese vis-a-vis the Occident will continue to exist even if the present California trouble is settled in one way or another. God created the universe for mankind in general not for one or two races alone."

RACE AND NATIONALITY.

It must be kept in mind, says the Springfield Republican, that what we speak of as a race question is for the Japanese a national question as well. With them, to an extent almost unparalleled in history, race and nation are one and the same thing. In 1909 there were in Japan but 17,000 foreigners, of whom 10,000 were Chinese. At the same time there were living abroad 220,000 Japanese, nearly 90,000 of them in the United States and its possessions. Japan since the war with Russia nine years ago has annexed Korea and Formosa and treats their inhabitants as subject races. In the remainder parts of Japan are the Ainu, 17,000 of them. For the rest, Japan means the Japanese, and where else shall we find a nation of 50,000,000 people, at once so homogeneous and so distinct from others?

The Chinese are a race, but as yet not quite a nation. In Russia, Austria and the United States we find a medley of races. England perhaps by its insular position offers the closest parallel to Japan, but besides the English, the islands hold Scotch, Welsh and Irish, and in Italy there is equal divergence between north and south. Germany is more homogeneous, but the Germans are not set off from neighbors like the Japanese by racial lines—there is no such difference between a German and a Frenchman or a Pole as between a Japanese and a Chinese. The Japanese are a blending of Mongolian, Malay and obscurer elements, but long isolation and the consequent inbreeding have produced a distinct and stable racial type. There were never so many Romans as there are Japanese; in the Roman empire at an early stage race and nationality became separate things. It is the strength of Japan that they are one and the same, but it is also the great difficulty of the race problem in the Pacific.

We all recognize that discrimination against nations is an unfriendly act and may provoke war if the nation offended is strong enough to show its resentment. Discrimination against races, on the contrary, has been so common that it is taken as a matter of course; the United States was the only country to protest against Russia's treatment of Jews in the matter of passports. The Pacific Coast looks upon the treatment of aliens as a race question. But that is only half the case; if the Japanese were like the Jews scattered in many countries, or if Japan like Russia or the United States contained many races, such a distinction might be made. But when race and nation are identical how can a line of this kind be drawn? This is the core of the difficulty, and its nature has not been adequately apprehended. The mistake of California was in not realizing that the race could not be touched without touching the nation and that therefore the problem must be dealt with in an international and not in a racial way.

CONSEQUENCE OF JUDICIAL WEAKNESS.

Once again Honolulu has an example of the criminal carelessness and the utter heartlessness of some of the automobile drivers who disgrace this community.

Sometime during Monday night, or early on Tuesday morning, an automobile crashed into a Japanese pedestrian, fracturing his skull, breaking both arms and otherwise mauling him, grim evidence of the force with which the man was struck.

Yesterday morning, the still breathing body of the man was found lying on the roadway where the speeding machine had hurled it. The tracks of the automobile in the dust of the street showed that it had been stopped, backed up so as not to run over the senseless body, and then driven away. No attempt whatever had been made to give any aid to the victim of the affair; the body was not even moved to one side to be out of the way of other vehicles. The sole idea of the cowardly brutes responsible for the affair appears to have been to run away and hide their identity, although the hope possibly occurred to them that some other machine might chance along and crush out the last flicker of life, leaving an innocent driver to assume the responsibility for the whole affair.

Honolulu will continue to have just such dastardly occurrences as this as long as the community tolerates the travesties on justice regarding speeding and accidents that have disgraced our courts and prosecuting departments during the past two or three years. So long as "pull" can stop prosecution; so long as the courts exercise no common sense in their sentences; so long as our lawyers and our jurists give weight to tricky technicalities and smoother-justice with unreasonable trifles, just that long will the idiot—often crazed by intoxicants—be allowed to ride roughshod in his automobile over the rights of the everyday citizen, leaving maimed and dead in his gasoline wake.

There is a way to stop the "apaches" of the local garages; there exists the remedy for the condition that has bloodied almost every street in this city. It is not found, however, along the road that allows our learned city attorney to noble professions such as that against young Assling; nor by sentencing the members of an criminally careless band of young thugs as could well be conceived, who wanted to dump a senseless man over the rail to get rid of him, to a mere thirty days in jail; nor by doing nothing whatever against the drunken joyrider who ran down W. H. Smith on Hotel street, and whooped away from the bleeding form; nor by freeing with a ridiculous penalty, a chauffeur with the record for carelessness just as Johnson had, the man, who, drunk and speeding, smashed up five people on King street a few months ago. Our authorities have been lamentably weak in their handling of this question of joyriders, speeders and drunken men at the driving wheels of high-powered cars. The police could do more than they do, but so ridiculous are their feeble efforts made by the prosecuting departments and the courts, that even their little is discouraged.

The traffic laws and the automobile ordinances are openly, willfully and scornfully violated a thousand times a day in Honolulu. The police orders are flouted, the police court is a standing joke and the city attorney's office is more a refuge in the time of storm than a place to be avoided by lawbreakers.

Some day some indignant citizen will do what many have seriously considered, go gunning for the joyrider. Then all the killing will not be done by the man on wheels.

THE INFAMOUS LOBBY.

Some two years ago, when San Francisco was appealing to congress for the privilege under official sanction of celebrating the opening of the Panama Canal, there was sent to Washington an imposing commission made up of citizens to the number of half a score or more, says the San Francisco Argonaut, apropos of the "insidious lobby" hearing dragged across the tariff trail by the President. The roster as we recall it offhand included Messrs. Reuben Hale, Henry T. Scott, M. H. de Young, Thornwell Mallally, A. W. Scott, William H. Crocker, Joseph D. Grant, and others of repute. They went for the avowed purpose of stimulating the spirit of our official representatives at Washington, of urging information and persuasion upon the President and upon congress. They opened official headquarters at a prominent Washington hotel, invited members of congress to visit them, set forth meat and drink—in short, put to work all the known arts of persuasion.

Little did these commissioners imagine when engaged in a self-sacrificing and what they thought to be a truly patriotic service that they were merely a group of "insidious" lobbyists—a species against whom the vials of presidential wrath would be poured out in less than two brief years. And little did the people of San Francisco think that they, through their agents, were engaged in an "insidious" and morally reprehensible business. On the other hand, we thought that they and they were doing a monstrous thing, and when our lobbyists returned home we met them at the Ferry, set loose hoards of hand maids and floods of cresty, and hung loose-collars of roses about their necks.

Not even yet does the full measure of infamy involved in visiting

the national capital for the promotion of some desired object of legislation appear to be duly appreciated. For we read in the daily newspapers that City Engineer O'Shaughnessy and City Attorney Long have been commissioned by the municipal government to proceed to Washington to "assist in securing Hetch Hetchy legislation at this session of congress." Apparently the great moral lesson sought to be impressed by President Wilson has yet to sink into the consciousness of the mayor and supervisors of San Francisco. These officials, it appears, are so presumptuous as to feel that San Francisco has the right to present information, argument, even persuasion, in support of a measure now pending before congress. They are apparently so morally blind as not to realize the wickedness of undertaking to influence congress, so besotted in their self-conceit as to be impervious alike to the President's admonitions and reproofs.

Time was when the government of Washington was thought to be a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. This delusion has been widespread and it is of traditional standing. Possibly there may be some justification for a mental and moral obtuseness which can not all at once take in the fact that there has come a mighty change at Washington—that the government now established there is the government of Woodrow Wilson, which nobody is permitted to approach upon peril of executive wrath as against gross impertinence and insidious dishonesty.

WHAT IS LOBBYING?

What is lobbying? The common interpretation is, says the Los Angeles Times, that it is giving to legislators secret and improper gratuities to cause them to vote in a certain way on bills or matters before them.

If Lorimer's agent offered a member of the Illinois legislature money to vote for Lorimer for senator, that would be lobbying, wouldn't it?

If Holy Hiram offered a member of the California legislature an appointment for his brother-in-law as a commissioner if he would vote for Works for senator, what would that be?

If Sam Gompers offered to support a congressman for re-election if he would vote for a bill exempting members of labor unions from prosecution for boycotting and picketing, what would that be?

If President Wilson gave a member of congress to understand that if he voted against free sugar and free wool he need not go near the pie counter, what would that be?

"What is the difference that one can see
Twixt tweddle dum and tweddle dee?"

GET TEACHERS TO TEACH.

The matrimonial status of a woman should be the last thing taken into account in her employment as a school teacher. Her ability to teach should be the one great consideration, unless our new board of school commissioners have swung around to the Hawaiian idea that the need of the applicant is the prime consideration and not her ability; that the idea of a school appropriation is to provide salaries especially and teachers for the children only incidentally. Hawaii never yet has had a sufficient number of capable teachers to supply the public school demand and if the commissioners are going to drop out some of the experienced ones now simply because they have married they will be hurting the school system very materially. In the most enlightened States the school authorities are encouraging marriage among the women teachers by granting two months' leave of absence to married teachers fulfilling the duties of maternity. The ideas expressed yesterday at the meeting of the board that those who need the salaries most should have them is worthy only of a rural county road department.

THE PASSING HOUR.

As advertisers, the British suffragettes are wonders. Soon there will not be anything left in the school department to row either with or over.

The report that the fishmarket inspectors are tabuing live fowls because they make so much noise as to disturb slumber is not confirmed.

President Wilson is trying to work up a row with the bankers in order to distract public attention from the machine work on the tariff bill. Our professional Executive is some cuttlefish when it comes to obscuring the political waters.

E. P. Dole, in a forcible and logical letter to the Seattle Post-Intelligencer of June 9, takes up the "insidious lobby" issue and explains Hawaii's position in its aboveboard fight for its industrial life. In his letter, Mr. Dole says: "The Post-Intelligencer names Sidney M. Ballou, ex-chief justice of Hawaii; E. E. Paxton, R. M. Mead and Walter G. Smith as persons attacked by the administration for representing at Washington the sugar interests of Hawaii. I am personally acquainted with these gentlemen and believe that all of them are incapable of dishonorable methods."

From McNab's comments, when his resignation as federal district attorney of California was accepted, he does not seem to be as pleased as would R. W. Breckons; were his resignation treated likewise.

It would take a solid four hundred acres, a tract one mile long and two-thirds of a mile deep, to hold the banana trees which the claimants before the banana commission say they lost in the clean-up campaign, allowing the trees the same space as is given on the Wai-kiki banana plantation.

It is most probable that the name of the murderous chauffeur who left a Japanese victim of his carelessness to die on the road on Monday night is known to some of the other chauffeurs of the city. If it be, those chauffeurs owe a duty to the community and to themselves to inform the police. Today, all the drivers of the city, to a more or less extent, are under suspicion.

Punloa, the gateway to Pearl Harbor, can get along very well without a saloon. Should a license be granted for one there, the hopes of the naval commandant that a neat little village, the home of the station clerks and other civil employees of the great plant, will have to give way to what usually goes with a drinking place at the entrance to an industrial plant, a collection of dives, through which all traveling between Honolulu and Pearl Harbor station must pass.

It was a foregone conclusion that the Democratic caucus would vote for free sugar and yesterday's announcement to that effect means nothing except in the fact that ten Democrats in caucus voted with the Louisianaps against the Underwood schedule. If two of these will vote the same way when the bill comes up in the senate, the free sugar clause will be knocked into a cocked hat. An attempt will be made, of course, to have the caucus decision made binding on the party senators and Hawaii's sole hope is that at least four Democrats may be found who will not follow when Woodrow whistles. We shall know all about it in a few days.

Those Californians seem determined to have trouble with Japan if their legislature cannot bring it about, their mobs will. In the name of commonsense and fairness, why do the Californians not take out their spite on the people of their own color who employ the Japanese, if they have to take it out on anyone, not on the Japanese who are only attempting to do what the law allows and the treaty between their own government and that of the United States guarantees them the right to do? If the action of the California mob yesterday at Hemet does not start the fireworks going in Tokio, we miss our guess.

The piling up of banana claims rather discourages the idea of any more "clean-up days." When the decent citizens are finished cleaning up the dirty yards of some of the others—which need it the most—they may find themselves defendants in a suit for damages or have to pay through the tax-office for the rubbish they helped remove. In some ways it is rather a pity that Honolulu cannot have just enough of an epidemic to force the military to take charge and give a salutary lesson to the lazy whelps who are content to have others do their clean-up work for them. A few Panamas and Hayanas lessons is what is needed here, not ridiculous appropriations to pay padded claims for damages.



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diarrhea. Sold by Druggists. Be sure and ask for
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Used for more than three generations.

OFFICES RENTED
AT GOLDEN GATE

Chairman of the Fair Commission
Closes Deal at San Francisco
and Promotion Commit-
tee Approves.

The first step toward the establishment of a greater publicity campaign for promoting tourist travel to the Hawaiian Islands was taken yesterday afternoon when the members of the promotion committee cabled to Director H. P. Wood at San Francisco, to close a deal for headquarters at San Francisco to be opened in November.

The authorization followed the receipt of a long cablegram from Mr. Wood yesterday announcing that he had secured an option on office quarters in a new building which is being erected in O'Farrell street opposite the Orpheum Theater and adjoining Tai's cafe.

Mr. Wood strongly urged that the committee accept this opportunity, explaining further that the Hawaiian fair commission would also cooperate with the promotion committee in the opening and use of the office, and would bear a portion of the expense.

The meeting of the committee yesterday was held in the office of Chairman Fred L. Waldron. Albert Waterhouse and H. von Damm were the other members present.

Director Wood had previously informed the committee by letter that he had looked over various locations for the establishment of a publicity office to be maintained until the end of the exposition in 1915, and at first favored one in the Palace Hotel building.

It is the plan of Director Wood, who is also chairman of the fair commission, to combine the publicity work of the two organizations as far as practicable for 1913, 1914 and 1915, in San Francisco, and his present visit was taken largely to prepare for the opening of offices on the Coast.

The members of the committee are enthusiastic over the proposition of Mr. Wood and lost no time in advising him to close the deal.

It was stated at the meeting that the O'Farrell street location is the best, as it is a day and night center, and in the very heart of the shopping district.

It is admitted that practically every visitor to San Francisco at one time or another enters the Orpheum Theater or Tai's cafe.

The proposed office will be a Hawaiian headquarters and it is expected that every islander who goes to San Francisco will register at the office. Literature concerning the islands is to be mailed from this office, and an extensive publicity campaign will be conducted. The work of the fair commission will be mainly directed from San Francisco.

Chairman Wood and Secretary Taylor will spend considerable time in the San Francisco headquarters after November of this year.

THREE SUSPECTS ARE
UNDER SURVEILLANCE

With three men under suspicion, but no definite clues in hand, the detective force of the police department is still working hard to discover the cowardly slayer of Yamamoto, the Japanese who was run down by an automobile and left to die last Monday night.

The best information as to the identity of the chauffeur which the police had, proved to be erroneous and after working two days to verify it, Chief McDuffie was compelled to abandon that lead. Since then slight evidence has been found which has placed three different men under suspicion, he says, and their movements on that night are being traced.

The police have every hope of eventually landing the man, admitting now, however, that there is very little to work on. They depend largely on the information which almost invariably develops some time after the crime.

NO SITE FOR HIGH
SCHOOL IN PAIA

That the Paia High School, as authorized by the last legislature, will not be built in Paia, Maui, was the substance of a statement made before the board of school commissioners yesterday by Commissioner Blanchard of Maui.

School officials of the Valley Isle, he stated, had gone over Paia, but were unable to find a site that could be secured for it. The school, however, will have to be called the Paia High School, to follow the orders of the legislature, but the site will not be in that place.

The night blooming cereus hedge surrounding the Oahu College grounds has been loaded with blossoms for two nights. The wall will be deeply covered tonight. The spectacle is rare and is a great attraction to tourists.